

## REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In complete response to the outstanding Official Action of June 17, 2004, and the Advisory Action of September 17, 2004, on the above-identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 18-25 remain in this application. Claims 1-17 have been cancelled.

## Allowable Subject Matter

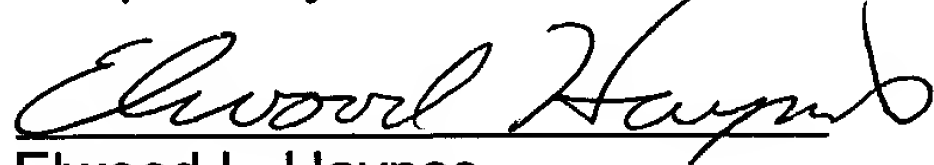
Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 18-25 are free of the prior art.

## CONCLUSION

In view of the current amendments, the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Should the examiner believe a telephone call would expedite the prosecution of the application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

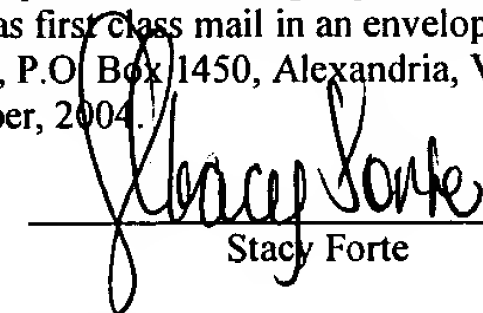


Elwood L. Haynes  
Registration No. 55,254

Date: October 6, 2004  
Air Liquide  
2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1800  
Houston, Texas 77056  
Phone: (713) 624-8956  
Fax: (713) 624-8950

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2004.

  
Stacy Forte